

**A NEW SPECIES OF *AGERATUM* (ASTERACEAE;
EUPATORIEAE) FROM NAYARIT, MEXICO**

B. L. Turner

Plant Resources Center, University of Texas, Austin 78712-0471, USA

ABSTRACT

A new species, *Ageratum solisii* **sp. nov.**, is described from Mpio. de Huacori, Nayarit, Mexico. It resembles the widespread, highly variable, *A. corymbosum* but is readily distinguished by a combination of characters including deltoid, markedly reticulate leaves, and more numerous much smaller heads. A photograph of the holotype is provided.

KEY WORDS: *Ageratum*, Asteraceae, Eupatorieae, Nayarit, Mexico.

In The Comps of Mexico (Turner 1997) *Ageratum* is recognized as having 11 species; the present novelty brings this total to 12. In my treatment, the new species described below (*A. solisii*) will key to or near *A. tomentosum* (Benth.) Hemsl. because of its suffruticose habit and thick deltoid leaves. The latter taxon is confined to the tri-corner region of the states of Veracruz, Puebla, and Oaxaca and can be immediately distinguished from *A. solisii* by its markedly bicolored leaves and few-headed capitulescence. In reality, *A. solisii* is probably more closely related to the widespread *A. corymbosum* Zucc. ex Pers., but is readily distinguished from this by a combination of characters, as noted in the above abstract.

Ageratum solisii B. L. Turner, **sp. nov.** Fig 1.

Similis *Agerato corymboso* Zucc. ex Pers. sed laminis foliorum deltatis, valde nervatis reticulate infra, et capitulis parvioribus pluribusque per capitulescentiam.



Fig 1. Holotype of *Ageratum solisii*.

Suffruticose herbs or shrublets up to 1 m high. Stems densely hirsute, the vestiture ca. 0.5 mm high. Leaves opposite, pubescent like the stems, 2.0-4.5 cm long, 2-3 cm wide; petioles 0.5-1.0 cm long; blades deltoid, rugose above, markedly reticulate-veined beneath, subcordate at the base; margins irregularly crenate. Heads numerous, arranged in terminal corymbose, somewhat flat-topped capitulescences 12-15 cm across, and about as high, the ultimate peduncles mostly 1-5 mm long. Heads relatively small, campanulate, the involucre ca. 4 mm high, composed of ca. 21 linear scales arranged in 2 series. Receptacle subconical, naked, glabrous, ca 1 mm across, 0.5 mm high. Florets 20-30 per head; corollas white, 1.5-2.0 mm long; throats ca. 1.2 mm long, grading into a weakly defined throat, atomiferous-glandular throughout, the lobes pubescent. Achenes ca. 1 mm long, glabrous; pappus a small saucer-shaped crown of united scales ca. 0.25 mm high.

TYPE: **MEXICO. NAYARIT:** Mpio. de Huajcori, Rancho de Los Sauces, mouth of canyon in "Bosque Templado (encinos chaporros y otros arboles)." 28 Sep 1985, *I. Solis 517* (HOLOTYPE: TEX).

ADDITIONAL COLLECTION EXAMINED: **MEXICO. NAYARIT:** same locality as type, 30 Sep 1985, *I. Solis 527* (TEX).

The species is named for Ignacio Solis Cumplido ("Don Nacho") who is a Tepahuan Indian and collected for CIIDR-Durango for several years in extreme southwestern Durango and nearby Nayarit, in the canyon country.

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LITERATURE CITED

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